

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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NATIONAL FISHING WEEK

The Fish and Wildlife Service will officially participate in National Fishing Week, June 3-10, 1984, Fish and Wildlife Service Director Robert A. Jantzen announced today. National Fishing Week, organized in 1979 by the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association, is designed to promote public recognition of the value of our Nation's fishery resources.

"We in the Fish and Wildlife Service are delighted to participate in this worthwhile effort," Jantzen said. "National Fishing Week provides an excellent opportunity to remind everyone of the important economic, cultural and recreational contributions our sport and commercial fisheries have made to our Nation. At the same time, the week should serve to remind us that the future health and productivity of our fisheries depends on effective conservation and management. Fish not only provide sources of food and opportunities for recreation, but also serve as valuable indicators of the overall quality of the environment."

The Fish and Wildlife Service has a national role in research and restoration efforts on behalf of such species as Atlantic and Pacific salmons, striped bass and lake trout. Additionally, the Service has the lead responsibility for the conservation and recovery of federally listed endangered fishes.

National Fishing Week observances will be held at many Fish and Wildlife Service facilities across the country -- including national fish hatcheries, national wildlife refuges and fishery research laboratories.

National Fishing Week is sponsored by the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association, with the cooperation of the American Fisheries Society, Sport Fishing Institute, the National Marine Fisheries Service and other conservation organizations.